

135 Experience Works searches for South Carolina's 2007 Outstanding Older Worker

Experience Works, the nation's largest training and employment organization for mature workers, is searching for South Carolina's outstanding older worker.

Experience Works Prime Time Awards program is part of Experience Works' national effort to raise awareness of the contributions made by older individuals and to break down barriers associated with the hiring of all older workers.

Outstanding older workers from every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico will be honored in Washington, D.C., and in their home states for their contributions to the workforce and local communities.

This year's search is being sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care, an outstanding employer of older workers in 2006.

Nominees or applicants must be 65 years of age or older, a resident of South Carolina, currently employed, and working at least 20 hours each week for pay.

The honoree must be willing and able to travel to Washington, D.C., in October for the Prime Time Award events.

The visit will include meet-

ings with congressional representatives, a tour of the city's landmarks, and the awards banquet and ceremony.

Honorees have an opportunity to meet, share their stories, and celebrate their accomplishments.

Family, friends or colleagues can send in a nomination, or older workers can self nominate.

South Carolina's outstanding older worker in 2006 was 76-year-old George Mize, job shop supervisor for The Anderson Independent Mail Newspaper.

Starting at the paper in 1944, at age 13, Mr. Mize's jobs have included advertising, photography, editing, and supervising sales.

His current duties include supervising the plate-making process.

From setting lead type to the present-day computer page setup, Mr. Mize has continued to learn the new technologies and even teach others.

In 2004 the paper gave Mr. Mize an E.W. Scripps President's Club Award for his 60 years of service, and he was later inducted into the Independent Mail Centennial Hall of Fame as a Founding Father for lifetime service.

His outside activities revolve around his family, and he also enjoys carpentry and reading.

The search for America's Oldest Worker for 2007 is also under way, as is the search for outstanding employers of older workers. Last year, 104-year-old Waldo McBurney, beekeeper and author from Quinter, Kansas, was named America's Oldest Worker.

An online nomination form or a printed nomination form can be accessed at their website: www.experienceworks.org.

The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2007.

Experience Works is a national, nonprofit organization that provides training and employment services for mature workers. Established in 1965, Experience Works reaches more than 125,000 mature individuals in all 50 states and Puerto Rico each year.

Home Instead Senior Care is the world's largest provider of comprehensive companionship and home care services for seniors.

For more information visit www.homeinstead.com.

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